

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method for preparing closed bacterial ghosts, comprising bringing bacterial ghosts into contact with carrier materials under conditions under which closure of the bacterial ghosts takes place, characterized in that the fusion is mediated by way of specific interactions between the partners of a bioaffinity binding pair, which partners are anchored on the ghosts and/or the carrier materials.
2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the partners of the bioaffinity binding pair are selected from the group consisting of biotin or biotin analogues/streptavidin or avidin, hapten/antibodies or antibody fragments, saccharide/lectin and ligand/receptor.
3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the bioaffinity binding pair employed is biotin/streptavidin.
4. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1,

characterized in that

at least one partner of the bioaffinity binding pair is immobilized on the membrane of the bacterial ghosts and on the carrier material.

5. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 4,

characterized in that

a first partner (P1) of the bioaffinity binding pair is immobilized on the membrane of the bacterial ghosts and a second partner (P2) of the bioaffinity binding pair is immobilized on the carrier material and the closure takes place by way of a P1-P2 interaction.

6. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 4,

characterized in that

a first partner (P1) of the bioaffinity binding pair is immobilized on the membrane of the bacterial ghosts and the carrier material and a second partner (P2) of the bioaffinity binding pair is present in free form and the closure takes place by way of a P1-P2-P1 interaction.

7. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim

1,

characterized in that

the ghosts are derived from Gram-negative bacteria.

8. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1,
characterized in that
the ghosts are derived from recombinant bacteria containing heterologous
membrane polypeptides.
9. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1,
characterized in that
the carrier material employed is lipid vesicles.
10. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 9,
characterized in that
the lipid vesicles employed are vesicles from homogenized cells, in particular
bacterial cells, liposomes or membrane-enveloped viruses.
11. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 9 ~~or 10~~, furthermore
comprising an at least partial fusion of the membrane of the bacterial ghosts and the
membrane of the lipid vesicles.
12. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1,
further comprising the packing of active compounds into the bacterial ghosts.

13. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 12,
characterized in that
the active compounds are selected from genetic material, cell components,
substances, labeling substances, agriculturally active substances, dyes and
combinations thereof.
14. (Currently Amended) A closed bacterial ghost which can be obtained by the method
as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1, with the closure being mediated by way
of specific interactions between partners of a bioaffinity binding pair.
15. (Original) The closed bacterial ghost as claimed in claim 14,
characterized in that
it comprises a membrane which is at least partially intact.
16. (Currently Amended) The closed bacterial ghost as claimed in claim 14 ~~or 15~~,
characterized in that
it comprises at least one encapsulated active compound.
17. (Currently Amended) The use of closed bacterial ghosts as claimed in ~~one of claims~~
~~14 to 16~~ claim 14 in medicine.
18. (Currently Amended) The use of closed bacterial ghosts as claimed in ~~one of claims~~

~~14 to 16~~ claim 14 in the agricultural sphere.

19. (Currently Amended) The use of closed bacterial ghosts as claimed in
~~one of claims 14 to 16~~ claim 14 in biotechnology.